

Name _____

Sort 23 – Derivational

Number Prefixes

What is the meaning of the following Greek roots?

quadr-		pent-	
tetra-		dec-	
quint-			

Sort the words into columns based on their roots some words will go in more than one category.

quadr-	tetra-	quint-
pent-	dec-	Can you think of another number word?

You might wonder why there are two prefixes for the same number. Some of the roots are Greek and some are Latin but both have survived through time and the words continue to be words used in our vocabulary.

Why do you think so many of the Greek words refer to athletic events?

Write the four words from this sort that refer to athletic events:

Applying Meaning

If *triad* refers to a group of three what does *tetrad* mean?

“Scientists reported today that they discovered the leg bone of the oldest known amphibian, a *tetrapod* that lived 360 million years ago.” Draw a picture of what a tetrapod might look like

If a *monarchy* is rule by one king or queen what do you think a *pentarchy* or *tetrarchy* means? Which form of government do you think would be more successful?

You may already know that *quintuplets* refers to 5 babies born at the same time. The word *quintessence* however uses the number five in a different way. If you said for example that “She was the *quintessence* of gymnastic ability” it literally means the fifth and highest “essence” after the essences of air, earth, fire, and water. To say that “we now have the *quintessential* book for cooking” means that it represents the best of all cookbooks available. Use the word *quintessence* or *quintessential* in a sentence of your own.

Select three other words from the list and use them in a meaningful sentence that is 8-10 words long.

Review: Sometime this week do a blind sort or play spelling tic tac toe with a partner.